

## OFFICE OF MAYOR VIRG BERNERO 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE – NINTH FLOOR LANSING, MI 48933

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sunday, January 5, 2014

## City of Lansing Issues Winter Storm Guidance

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(LANSING) – With forecasts of up to 12 inches of snow falling across the Lansing area over the next 24 hours, the City of Lansing urges residents to limit travel to emergency needs only while city crews clear snow from major roads and local streets. High winds predicted to begin tonight may also cause extensive blowing and drifting snow on city streets, adding to hazardous driving conditions.

Residents are asked to remove all parked vehicles from all city streets until snow clearing operations are completed in your area. City ordinance prohibits on-street parking from 2 a.m. to 5 a.m., but it will greatly facilitate plowing operations if vehicles are not parked on city streets at any time until these operations are completed. Vehicles parked on city streets that interfere with plowing operations may be towed at the owner's expense.

City winter maintenance crews have been conducting salting operations on bridges, overpasses and major streets since 11 p.m. Saturday night. Plowing operations on major streets commenced at 8 a.m. this morning and city crews will work continuously through the storm to keep major thoroughfares as clear as possible.

Local street plowing operations will begin as soon as major streets are cleared, but city residents are reminded that it takes several days to plow more than 440 miles of city streets after a major snow storm. Plowing operations on local streets follow the city's established plow routes. A link to the plow route map, and other winter maintenance information, can be viewed online at <a href="http://www.lansingmi.gov/snow\_ice\_information">http://www.lansingmi.gov/snow\_ice\_information</a>.

Updates on the city's snow clearing operations are also available via the city's Nixel text messaging service. Citizens can sign up for Nixel updates by visiting <a href="http://www.nixle.com">http://www.nixle.com</a> and subscribing to Lansing Public Service.

Citizens are also reminded that city ordinance requires property owners to clear snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours after a winter storm event.

With extreme cold temperatures and subzero windchills expected over the next few days, citizens are reminded to exercise caution by limiting their outdoor exposure and dressing appropriately for the conditions. The city's community centers will continue to be available as warming centers during regular business hours. City officials will continually monitor the need for additional warming centers or overnight shelters and coordinate with the American Red Cross to provide needed services.

City residents can call 2-1-1 for the latest information on warming centers and shelters, or if they need other forms of non-emergency assistance. For emergencies, please call 9-1-1. This and other emergency-related information is also available on the city website at <a href="http://www.lansingmi.gov/emergency">http://www.lansingmi.gov/emergency</a>.